

# NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS AND RANCHERS

## COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. This means you may be eligible if:

- 1.** You sought a farm loan or farm-loan servicing during that period;
- 2.** The loan was denied, provided late, approved for a lesser amount than requested, approved with restrictive conditions, or USDA failed to provide an appropriate loan service; and
- 3.** You believe these actions were based on your being Hispanic or your being female.

In 2011, a claims administrator will begin mailing claims packages to those who have requested one through the Call Center or website. The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

**If you want to register your name to receive a claims package, access the Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Call Center or website:**

**Call Center: 1-888-508-4429**

**Website: [www.farmerclaims.gov](http://www.farmerclaims.gov)**

For guidance, you may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider in your community. **USDA cannot provide legal advice to you.**

If you are currently represented by counsel regarding allegations of discrimination or in a lawsuit claiming discrimination, you should contact your counsel regarding this claims process.

<b>Referral Guide</b> <b>USDA Settlements and Claims Adjudication Process</b>		
<b>WOMEN and HISPANIC Farmers and Ranchers Claims Adjudication Process</b>		
<p>If you believe that USDA improperly denied farm loan benefits to you for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000 because you are a female or because you are Hispanic, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.</p>	<p>To request a claims package by phone, call: <b>1-888-508-4429</b></p>	<p>To request a claims package online, please visit: <b><u><a href="http://www.farmerclaims.gov">www.farmerclaims.gov</a></u></b></p>
<b>NATIVE AMERICAN Farmer and Rancher Class Action Settlement (<i>Keepseagle v. Vilsack</i>)</b>		
<p>If you are a Native American who was denied a farm loan or loan servicing by the USDA between Jan. 1, 1981 and Nov. 24, 1999, you may be eligible for benefits from a Class Action Settlement.</p>	<p>To request a claims package by phone, call: <b>1-888-233-5506</b></p>	<p>To request a claims package online, or for more information, please visit: <b><u><a href="http://www.indianfarmclass.com">www.indianfarmclass.com</a></u></b></p>
<b>AFRICAN AMERICAN Farmer and Rancher Class Action Settlement (<i>Pigford II</i>)</b>		
<p>If you are an African American farmer (a) who submitted a request to file a late claim on or between Oct. 13, 1999 and June 18, 2008, under the 1999 USDA settlement in the earlier class action known as <i>Pigford v. Glickman</i> ("Pigford"), and (b) who did not receive a merits determination of your discrimination claim, you may be eligible for benefits from a Class Action Settlement.</p>	<p>To hear information by phone, call:  <b>1-866-950-5547 or</b>  <b>1-866-472-7826</b></p>	<p>To find information online, please visit: <b><u><a href="http://www.blackfarmercase.com">www.blackfarmercase.com</a></u></b></p>
<p>If you are currently represented by counsel regarding allegations of discrimination against USDA or in a lawsuit claiming discrimination against USDA, you should contact your counsel regarding your claims process. USDA cannot provide legal advice to you. You are not required to hire an attorney to file a claim, but you may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider in your community for additional guidance.</p> <p><b>Media calls are referred to the USDA Office of Communications at 202-720-4623.</b></p>		

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